



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/099,853

03/13/2002

Matti Salmi

944-001.065

4491

4955

7590

09/11/2006

WARE FRESSOLA VAN DER SLUYS &  
ADOLPHSON, LLP  
BRADFORD GREEN, BUILDING 5  
755 MAIN STREET, P O BOX 224  
MONROE, CT 06468

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, THUONG

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2155

DATE MAILED: 09/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/099,853

Applicant(s)

SALMI ET AL.

Examiner

Thuong (Tina) T. Nguyen

Art Unit

2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE \_\_\_\_\_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 June 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-66 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12, 14-26, 28-39, 41-53, 55-59, 61, 62, 64 and 65 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 13, 27, 40, 54, 60, 63 and 66 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/26/06</u> .   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the amendment filed on 6/5/06. Claims 1-55 were amended. Claims 56-66 are added. Claims 1-66 are pending. Claims 1-66 represent method and system for separation of instant messaging user and client identification.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-5, 7-12, 14-19, 21-26, 28-32, 34-39, 41-46, 48-53, 55-59, 61-62, 64-65 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Aravamudan Patent No. 6,301,609 B1. Aravamudan teaches the invention as claimed including assignable associate priorities for user-definable instant messaging buddy groups (see abstract).

4. As to claim 1, Aravamudan teaches a method comprising by:

providing said primitive with an information element identifying a client of said terminal device (col 4, lines 65 – col 5, lines 13; Aravamudan discloses that the method of identified the client via the client's client premises equipment through the third party provider for Instant Message service and the service provider), and

providing said primitive identifying said client also with an information element identifying a user of said client (col 6, lines 45-53; Aravamudan discloses that the method of identified the user based on the registers address of the user's Instant message server and provisions the client CPE software with a unique identification).

5. As to claim 2, Aravamudan teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein said primitive comprises an update presence primitive for use in communicating presence information to said network (col 6, lines 18-31; Aravamudan discloses that the method of updating the personal and rule database base on the client's Internet addresses and personally defined).

6. As to claim 3, Aravamudan teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein said primitive comprises an unsubscribe presence primitive for communicating a request to said network to discontinue receipt of selected presence information (col 8, lines 10-19; Aravamudan discloses that the method of determined whether or not the client is terminated from the session and any loss of connectivity and loss of physical connection).

7. As to claim 4, Aravamudan teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein said primitive comprises a leave group primitive for communicating a request to discontinue participation in a group to said network (col 7, lines 41-49; Aravamudan discloses that the method of determine the time when the user is inactive or disconnect in a period of time).

8. As to claim 5, Aravamudan teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein said primitive comprises a create group primitive for communicating a request to create

Art Unit: 2155

a group to said network (col 6, lines 58-63; Aravamudan discloses that the method of creating the buddy group for the user which includes the user's CPE and CSP identity).

9. As to claim 7, Aravamudan teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein said primitive comprises a get group information primitive for communicating a request for group information to said network (col 9, lines 45-57; Aravamudan discloses that the method of creates buddy groups and defines specific attributes to associates included within each group).

10. As to claim 8, Aravamudan teaches the method as recited in claim 1, comprising:  
providing said primitive with an information element identifying a client of another terminal device (figure 2; Aravamudan discloses that the method of providing the information to identify the clients such as mobile phone, handheld, laptop... which associate with the instant message server and service provider), and

providing said primitive with an information element identifying a user of said client of said another terminal device (figure 4; Aravamudan discloses that the method of providing the information which identify the user selects service which registers name and password).

11. As to claim 9, Aravamudan teaches the method as recited in claim 8, wherein said primitive comprises a get presence primitive for communicating a request for presence information to said network (col 6, lines 33-44; Aravamudan discloses that the method of providing the new user in accordance with the principles of the present invention which prompted for and selects password).

Art Unit: 2155

12. As to claim 10, Aravamudan teaches the method as recited in claim 8, wherein said primitive comprises a subscribe presence primitive for communicating a request to subscribe to presence information to said network (col 3, lines 37-41; Aravamudan discloses that the method of subscribe client's CPE for the Internet access service).

13. As to claim 11, Aravamudan teaches the method as recited in claim 8, wherein said primitive comprises a message primitive for communicating a message to said network (col 8, lines 23-31; Aravamudan discloses that the method of conveys instant messages to one or more predetermined buddies of the user to indicate the off-line status or on-line status of the user).

14. As to claim 12, Aravamudan teaches the method as recited in claim 8, wherein said primitive comprises an invite user primitive for communicating a request to invite a user to said network (col 7, lines 33-40; Aravamudan discloses that the method of sending an instant message communicating the event and eliciting a user response to the client CPE device).

15. As to claim 14, Aravamudan teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein said at least one other entity is configured to user said information element identifying a client of said terminal device and said information element identifying a user of said client to distinguish said user and said client (figure 5; Aravamudan discloses that the method of identify the client device and the user which associate which each other).

16. As to claim 15, Aravamudan teaches a system comprising:

at least one terminal device for providing a primitive with an information element identifying a client of said terminal device and also with an information element

Art Unit: 2155

identifying a user of said client (col 4, lines 65 – col 5, lines 13; Aravamudan discloses that the system of identified the client via the client's client premises equipment through the third party provider for Instant Message service and the service provider), and

at least one other entity receiving said primitive provided over said network, and by using said information element identifying a client of said terminal device and said information element identifying a user of said client to distinguish said user and said client (col 6, lines 45-53; Aravamudan discloses that the system of identified the user based on the registers address of the user's Instant message server and provisions the client CPE software with a unique identification).

17. As to claim 16, Aravamudan teaches the system as recited in claim 15, wherein said primitive comprises an update presence primitive for use in communicating presence information to said network (col 6, lines 18-31; Aravamudan discloses that the system of updating the personal and rule database base on the client's Internet addresses and personally defined).

18. As to claim 17, Aravamudan teaches the system as recited in claim 15, wherein said primitive comprises an unsubscribe presence primitive for communicating a request to said network to discontinue receipt of selected presence information (col 8, lines 10-19; Aravamudan discloses that the system of determined whether or not the client is terminated from the session and any loss of connectivity and loss of physical connection).

19. As to claim 18, Aravamudan teaches the system as recited in claim 15, wherein said primitive comprises a leave group primitive for communicating a request to

Art Unit: 2155

discontinue participation in a group to said network (col 7, lines 41-49; Aravamudan discloses that the system of determine the time when the user is inactive or disconnect in a period of time).

20. As to claim 19, Aravamudan teaches the system as recited in claim 15, wherein said primitive comprises a create group primitive for communicating a request to create a group to said network (col 6, lines 58-63; Aravamudan discloses that the system of creating the buddy group for the user which includes the user's CPE and CSP identity).

21. As to claim 21, Aravamudan teaches the system as recited in claim 15, wherein said primitive comprises a get group information primitive for communicating a request for group information to said network (col 9, lines 45-57; Aravamudan discloses that the system of creates buddy groups and defines specific attributes to associates included within each group).

22. As to claim 22, Aravamudan teaches the system as recited in claim 15, wherein:  
said at least one terminal device is configured to provide said primitive with an information element identifying a client of another terminal device (figure 2; Aravamudan discloses that the system of providing the information to identify the clients such as mobile phone, handheld, laptop... which associate with the instant message server and service provider), and

an information element identifying a user of said client of said another terminal device (figure 4; Aravamudan discloses that the system of providing the information which identify the user selects service which registers name and password).



Art Unit: 2155

23. As to claim 23, Aravamudan teaches the system as recited in claim 22, wherein said primitive comprises a get presence primitive for communicating a request for presence information to said network (col 6, lines 33-44; Aravamudan discloses that the system of providing the new user in accordance with the principles of the present invention which prompted for and selects password).

24. As to claim 24, Aravamudan teaches the system as recited in claim 22, wherein said primitive comprises a subscribe presence primitive for communicating a request to subscribe to presence information to said network (col 3, lines 37-41; Aravamudan discloses that the system of subscribe client's CPE for the Internet access service).

25. As to claim 25, Aravamudan teaches the system as recited in claim 22, wherein said primitive comprises a message primitive for communicating a message to said network (col 8, lines 23-31; Aravamudan discloses that the system of conveys instant messages to one or more predetermined buddies of the user to indicate the off-line status or on-line status of the user).

26. As to claim 26, Aravamudan teaches the system as recited in claim 22, wherein said primitive comprises an invite user primitive for communicating a request to invite a user to said network (col 7, lines 33-40; Aravamudan discloses that the system of sending an instant message communicating the event and eliciting a user response to the client CPE device).

27. As to claim 28, Aravamudan teaches a device wherein said device is configured to:

provide said primitive with an information element identifying a client of said device (col 4, lines 65 – col 5, lines 13; Aravamudan discloses that the device of identified the client via the client's client premises equipment through the third party provider for Instant Message service and the service provider), and by

provide said primitive identifying said client also with an information element identifying a user of said client (col 6, lines 45-53; Aravamudan discloses that the device of identified the user based on the registers address of the user's Instant message server and provisions the client CPE software with a unique identification).

28. As to claim 29, Aravamudan teaches the device as recited in claim 28, wherein said primitive comprises an update presence primitive for use in communicating presence information to said network (col 6, lines 18-31; Aravamudan discloses that the device of updating the personal and rule database base on the client's Internet addresses and personally defined).

29. As to claim 30, Aravamudan teaches the device as recited in claim 28, wherein said primitive comprises an unsubscribe presence primitive for communicating a request to said network to discontinue receipt of selected presence information (col 8, lines 10-19; Aravamudan discloses that the device of determined whether or not the client is terminated from the session and any loss of connectivity and loss of physical connection).

30. As to claim 31, Aravamudan teaches the device as recited in claim 28, wherein said primitive comprises a leave group primitive for communicating a request to discontinue participation in a group to said network (col 7, lines 41-49; Aravamudan

Art Unit: 2155

discloses that the device of determine the time when the user is inactive or disconnect in a period of time).

31. As to claim 32, Aravamudan teaches the device as recited in claim 28, wherein said primitive comprises a create group primitive for communicating a request to create a group to said network (col 6, lines 58-63; Aravamudan discloses that the device of creating the buddy group for the user which includes the user's CPE and CSP identity).

32. As to claim 34, Aravamudan teaches the device as recited in claim 28, wherein said primitive comprises a get group information primitive for communicating a request for group information to said network (col 9, lines 45-57; Aravamudan discloses that the device of creates buddy groups and defines specific attributes to associates included within each group).

33. As to claim 35, Aravamudan teaches the device as recited in claim 28, wherein said device is further configured to:

provide said primitive with an information element identifying a client of another device (figure 2; Aravamudan discloses that the device of providing the information to identify the clients such as mobile phone, handheld, laptop... which associate with the instant message server and service provider), and

provide said primitive with an information element identifying a user of said client of said another device (figure 4; Aravamudan discloses that the device of providing the information which identify the user selects service which registers name and password).

34. As to claim 36, Aravamudan teaches the device as recited in claim 35, wherein said primitive comprises a get presence primitive for communicating a request for

Art Unit: 2155

presence information to said network (col 6, lines 33-44; Aravamudan discloses that the device of providing the new user in accordance with the principles of the present invention which prompted for and selects password).

35. As to claim 37, Aravamudan teaches the device as recited in claim 35, wherein said primitive comprises a subscribe presence primitive for communicating a request to subscribe to presence information to said network (col 3, lines 37-41; Aravamudan discloses that the device of subscribe client's CPE for the Internet access service).

36. As to claim 38, Aravamudan teaches the device as recited in claim 35, wherein said primitive comprises a message primitive for communicating a message to said network (col 8, lines 23-31; Aravamudan discloses that the device of conveys instant messages to one or more predetermined buddies of the user to indicate the off-line status or on-line status of the user).

37. As to claim 39, Aravamudan teaches the device as recited in claim 35, wherein said primitive comprises an invite user primitive for communicating a request to invite a user to said network (col 7, lines 33-40; Aravamudan discloses that the device of sending an instant message communicating the event and eliciting a user response to the client CPE device).

38. As to claim 41, Aravamudan teaches the device as recited in claim 28, wherein said at least one other entity is configured to use said information element identifying a client of said terminal device and said information element identifying a user of said client to distinguish said user and said client (figure 5; Aravamudan discloses that the device of identify the client device and the user which associate which each other).

Art Unit: 2155

39. As to claim 42, Aravamudan teaches a server wherein the server is configured to:

communicate said primitive with an information element identifying a client (col 4, lines 65 – col 5, lines 13; Aravamudan discloses that the server of identified the client via the client's client premises equipment through the third party provider for Instant Message service and the service provider), and by

communicate said primitive identifying said client also with an information element identifying a user of said client (col 6, lines 45-53; Aravamudan discloses that the server of identified the user based on the registers address of the user's Instant message server and provisions the client CPE software with a unique identification).

40. As to claim 43, Aravamudan teaches the server as recited in claim 42, wherein said primitive comprises an update presence primitive for use in communicating presence information (col 6, lines 18-31; Aravamudan discloses that the server of updating the personal and rule database base on the client's Internet addresses and personally defined).

41. As to claim 44, Aravamudan teaches the server as recited in claim 42, wherein said primitive comprises an unsubscribe presence primitive for communicating a request to discontinue receipt of selected presence information (col 8, lines 10-19; Aravamudan discloses that the server of determined whether or not the client is terminated from the session and any loss of connectivity and loss of physical connection).

Art Unit: 2155

42. As to claim 45, Aravamudan teaches the server as recited in claim 42, wherein said primitive comprises a leave group primitive for communicating a request to discontinue participation in a group (col 7, lines 41-49; Aravamudan discloses that the server of determine the time when the user is inactive or disconnect in a period of time).

43. As to claim 46, Aravamudan teaches the server as recited in claim 42, wherein said primitive comprises a create group primitive for communicating a request to create a group (col 6, lines 58-63; Aravamudan discloses that the server of creating the buddy group for the user which includes the user's CPE and CSP identity).

44. As to claim 48, Aravamudan teaches the server as recited in claim 42, wherein said primitive comprises a get group information primitive for communicating a request for group information (col 9, lines 45-57; Aravamudan discloses that the server of creates buddy groups and defines specific attributes to associates included within each group).

45. As to claim 49, Aravamudan teaches the server as recited in claim 42, wherein said server is configured to:

communicate said primitive with an information element identifying another client (figure 2; Aravamudan discloses that the server of providing the information to identify the clients such as mobile phone, handheld, laptop... which associate with the instant message server and service provider), and by

communicate with an information element identifying a user of said other client (figure 4; Aravamudan discloses that the server of providing the information which identify the user selects service which registers name and password).

Art Unit: 2155

46. As to claim 50, Aravamudan teaches the server as recited in claim 49, wherein said primitive comprises a get presence primitive for communicating a request for presence information (col 6, lines 33-44; Aravamudan discloses that the server of providing the new user in accordance with the principles of the present invention which prompted for and selects password).

47. As to claim 51, Aravamudan teaches the server as recited in claim 49, wherein said primitive comprises a subscribe presence primitive for communicating a request to subscribe to presence information (col 3, lines 37-41; Aravamudan discloses that the server of subscribe client's CPE for the Internet access service).

48. As to claim 52, Aravamudan teaches the server as recited in claim 49, wherein said primitive comprises a message primitive for communicating a message (col 8, lines 23-31; Aravamudan discloses that the server of conveys instant messages to one or more predetermined buddies of the user to indicate the off-line status or on-line status of the user).

49. As to claim 53, Aravamudan teaches the server as recited in claim 49, wherein said primitive comprises an invite user primitive for communicating a request to invite a user (col 7, lines 33-40; Aravamudan discloses that the server of sending an instant message communicating the event and eliciting a user response to the client CPE device).

50. As to claim 55, Aravamudan teaches the server as recited in claim 42, wherein said server is configured to use said information element identifying a client of said terminal device and said information element identifying a user of said client to

Art Unit: 2155

distinguish said user and said client (figure 5; Aravamudan discloses that the server of identify the client device and the user which associate which each other).

51. As to claim 56, Aravamudan teaches a physical device comprising:

various layers including a service capabilities layer responsive to various constituent information elements for combination into an outgoing primitive (col 4, lines 65 – col 5, lines 13; Aravamudan discloses that the device of identified the client via the client's client premises equipment through the third party provider for Instant Message service and the service provider),

said various constituent information elements including an information element identifying the client of said physical device and an information element separately identifying a user of said client (col 6, lines 45-53; Aravamudan discloses that the device of identified the user based on the registers address of the user's Instant message server and provisions the client CPE software with a unique identification).

52. As to claim 57, Aravamudan teaches the device as recited in claim 56, wherein said primitive includes a request for a user identification, said user identification identifies a user which is a destination of a requested operation (col 6, lines 18-63; Aravamudan discloses that the device of prompted the user to enter his/her user ID, password and registration ID).

53. As to claim 58, Aravamudan teaches the device as recited in claim 56, wherein said primitive further includes a request for a client identification, said client identification identifies a client of the user (col 6, lines 18-63; Aravamudan discloses that the device of prompted the user to enter his/her user ID, password and registration ID).



Art Unit: 2155

54. As to claim 59, Aravamudan teaches a system for communicating information, comprising:

means for providing a primitive with an information element identifying a client of said terminal device (col 4, lines 65 – col 5, lines 13; Aravamudan discloses that the system of identified the client via the client's client premises equipment through the third party provider for Instant Message service and the service provider), and

means for providing said primitive identifying said client also with an information element identifying a user of said client (col 6, lines 45-53; Aravamudan discloses that the system of identified the user based on the registers address of the user's Instant message server and provisions the client CPE software with a unique identification),

means for receiving said primitive provided by said terminal device over said network (col 6, lines 33-44; Aravamudan discloses that the system of providing the new user in accordance with the principles of the present invention which prompted for and selects password),

wherein said information element identifying a client of said terminal device and said information element identifying a user of said client are used by the at least one other entity to distinguish said user and said client (figure 5; Aravamudan discloses that the system of identify the client device and the user which associate which each other).

55. As to claim 61, Aravamudan teaches a device for communicating identification information comprising:

means for providing said primitive with an information element identifying a client of said device (col 4, lines 65 – col 5, lines 13; Aravamudan discloses that the device of

Art Unit: 2155

identified the client via the client's client premises equipment through the third party provider for Instant Message service and the service provider), and

means for providing said primitive identifying said client also with an information element identifying a user of said client (col 6, lines 45-53; Aravamudan discloses that the device of identified the user based on the registers address of the user's Instant message server and provisions the client CPE software with a unique identification).

56. As to claim 62, Aravamudan teaches the device as recited in claim 61, wherein:

means for providing said primitive with an information element identifying a client of another device (figure 2; Aravamudan discloses that the device of providing the information to identify the clients such as mobile phone, handheld, laptop... which associate with the instant message server and service provider), and

means for providing said primitive with an information element identifying a user of said client of said another device (figure 4; Aravamudan discloses that the device of providing the information which identify the user selects service which registers name and password).

57. As to claim 64, Aravamudan teaches a server for communicating comprising:

means for communicating said primitive with an information element identifying a client (col 4, lines 65 – col 5, lines 13; Aravamudan discloses that the server of identified the client via the client's client premises equipment through the third party provider for Instant Message service and the service provider), and

means for communicating said primitive identifying said client also with an information element identifying a user of said client (col 6, lines 45-53; Aravamudan

Art Unit: 2155

discloses that the server of identified the user based on the registers address of the user's Instant message server and provisions the client CPE software with a unique identification).

58. As to claim 65, Aravamudan teaches the device as recited in claim 64, comprising:

means for communicating said primitive with an information element identifying another client (figure 2; Aravamudan discloses that the device of providing the information to identify the clients such as mobile phone, handheld, laptop... which associate with the instant message server and service provider), and

means for communicating said primitive with an information element identifying a user of said other client (figure 4; Aravamudan discloses that the device of providing the information which identify the user selects service which registers name and password).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

59. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

60. Claims 6, 20, 33 & 47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aravamudan, Patent No. 6,301,601 B1 in view of Mendiola, Patent No. 2002/0006803 A1.

Aravamudan teaches the invention substantially as claimed including assignable associate priorities for user-definable instant messaging buddy groups (see abstract).

61. As to claim 6, Aravamudan teaches the method as recited in claim 1. But Aravamudan fails to disclose the claim limitation wherein said primitive comprises a delete group primitive for communicating a request to delete a group to said network.

However, Mendiola teaches method and system for inviting and creating accounts for prospective users of an instant messaging system (see abstract). Mendiola teaches the limitation wherein said primitive comprises a delete group primitive for communicating a request to delete a group to said network (page 4, paragraph 65).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Aravamudan in view of Mendiola so that the client user authorized to change, modify or delete the buddies amongst whom messages can be exchanged instantly or dispatched the prospective user in the short message. One would be motivated to do so to improve the system by giving the client a flexibility to create, delete or modify their own buddies' group base on their own criteria.

62. As to claim 20, Aravamudan teaches the system as recited in claim 15. But Aravamudan fails to disclose the claim limitation wherein said primitive comprises a delete group primitive for communicating a request to delete a group to said network.

However, Mendiola teaches the limitation wherein primitive comprises a delete group primitive for communicating a request to delete a group to said network (page 4, paragraph 65).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Aravamudan in view of Mendiola so that the client user authorized to change, modify or delete the buddies amongst whom messages can be exchanged instantly or dispatched the prospective user in the short message. One would be motivated to do so to improve the system by giving the client a flexibility to create, delete or modify their own buddies' group base on their own criteria.

63. As to claim 33, Aravamudan teaches the device as recited in claim 28. But Aravamudan fails to disclose the claim limitation wherein said primitive comprises a delete group primitive for communicating a request to delete a group to said network.

However, Mendiola teaches the limitation wherein primitive comprises a delete group primitive for communicating a request to delete a group to said network (page 4, paragraph 65).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Aravamudan in view of Mendiola so that the client user authorized to change, modify or delete the buddies amongst whom messages can be exchanged instantly or dispatched the prospective user in the short message. One would be motivated to do so to improve the system by giving the client a flexibility to create, delete or modify their own buddies' group base on their own criteria.

Art Unit: 2155

64. As to claim 47, Aravamudan teaches the server as recited in claim 42. But Aravamudan fails to disclose the claim limitation wherein said primitive comprise a delete group primitive for communicating a request to delete a group.

However, Mendiola teaches the limitation wherein primitive comprise a delete group primitive for communicating a request to delete a group (page 4, paragraph 65).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Aravamudan in view of Mendiola so that the client user authorized to change, modify or delete the buddies amongst whom messages can be exchanged instantly or dispatched the prospective user in the short message. One would be motivated to do so to improve the system by giving the client a flexibility to create, delete or modify their own buddies' group base on their own criteria.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

65. Claims 13, 27, 40, 54, 60, 63 & 66 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Also, please make all the claims parallel so that it would be more appropriate for future allowance.

66. Claims 13, 27, 40, 54, 60, 63 & 66 are allowed because none of prior art of record teaches or discloses the combination of said client first logging onto said server without providing said primitive with information elements identifying said client and said user, but identifying a supported digest schema; the client receiving back an

Art Unit: 2155

authorization failure signal from said server with a nonce serving as a challenge for the client; the client calculating a digest concatenating the nonce, a user password and a client identification using the supported digest schema; the client once again logging onto said server but this time with the calculated digest; the server recalculating the digest using the supported schema and using the nonce and the client password and client identification extracted by the server from the digest provided by the client; and the server comparing the re-calculated digest to the provided digest and accepting the login if they match.

### **Contact Information**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuong (Tina) Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-3864, and the fax number is 571-273-3864. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on 571-272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2155

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Thuong (Tina) Nguyen  
Patent Examiner/Art Unit 2155



SALEH NAJJAR  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER